

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 IO-13 AF-10 OMB-01 /092 W
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R 070730Z MAY 77
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4507
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 0753

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PROP, IZ, US
SUBJECT: ARTICLE IN BAATH PARTY NEWSPAPER LINKS CARTER ADMINISTRATION,
TRILATERAL COMMISSION, CHASE MANHATTAN BANK AND ZIONIST
INFLUENCE

1. BAATH PARTY DAILY AL-THAWRA OF APRIL 24 CARRIES LONG
ARTICLE WHICH PURPORTS TO EXPLAIN NATURE OF ZIONIST
INFLUENCE ON NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION. ARTICLE APPEARS
ON PAGE 3, WHICH USUALLY RESERVED FOR GUIDANCE TO
PARTY CADRES. FACT THAT IT IS SIGNED BY JOURNALIST
OF NO SPECIAL REPUTATION RENDERS IT LESS AUTHORITATIVE,
BUT IT IS NONETHELESS INTERESTING AS INDICATOR
OF GRIP WHICH CONSPIRACY THEORIES HOLD ON MIND
OF SEMI-EDUCATED BAATHI PUBLICISTS.

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2. AFTER USUAL RECITAL OF ALLEGED TOTAL USG SUPPORT
FOR ISRAEL AND USG BIAS AGAINST ARAB STATES,
ARTICLE STATES THAT TRILATERAL COMMISSION STANDS BEHIND
PRESIDENT CARTER AND IS SEEKING TO USE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF ADMINISTRATION'S MIDDLE EAST POLICY TO SERVE U.S.
GLOBAL STRATEGY. WRITER NOTES THAT CARTER'S
MEMBERSHIP IN TRIALTERAL COMMISSION WAS IMPORTANT

OPPORTUNITY FOR HIM TO BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND BALDLY STATES THAT TRILATERAL COMMISSION CHOSE CARTER TO BE DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE. ARTICLE GOES ON TO LIST TRILATERAL COMMISSION MEMBERS WHO HOLD PROMINENT POSITIONS IN CARTER ADMINISTRATION.

3. ARTICLE NAMES DAVID ROCKEFELLER AS PRIME MOVER BEHIND ESTABLISHMENT OF TRILATERAL COMMISSION AS THE "GOVERNMENT OF INTERNATIONAL CAPITALISM" AND AS A DEVICE FOR STRENGTHENING THE WESTERN ALLIANCE UNDER U.S. LEADERSHIP. CHASE MANHATTAN BANK IS DESCRIBED AS THE STRONGEST BASTION OF INTERNATIONAL CAPITALISM AND IS CREDITED WITH DOMINATION OF U.S. ECONOMY.

4. WRITER THEN PROCEEDS TO DETAIL ALLEGED ZIONIST INFLUENCE OVER THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, THE TRILATERAL COMMISSION AND THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION. TO MAKE HIS POINT, WRITER MIXES REFERENCES TO ZIONISTS, JEWS AND PEOPLE OF JEWISH ORIGIN. RE CHASE MANHATTAN FOR EXAMPLE, HE CLAIMS "JEWISH CAPITALISM OWNS APPROXIMATELY SIXTY PERCENT" OF THE BANK. (COMMENT: THIS MAY COME AS A SURPRISE TO THE ROCKEFELLER FAMILY.) THE LIST OF "PROTECTORS OF ISRAEL IN THE WHITE HOUSE" INCLUDES CONVERTS TO PROTESTANTISM WHO HAVE JEWISH ORIGINS AS WELL AS OFFICIALS WHO WERE ACTIVE IN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS. WRITER QUOTES APPROVINGLY FROM ALFRED LILIENTHAL TO ALLEGE THAT NON-PRACTICING JEWS ARE THE MOST CONFIDENTIAL

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FERVENT SUPPORTERS OF ISRAEL AS A MEANS TO DEFEND THEMSELVES FROM THE CHARGE OF BEING RENEGADES FROM THEIR HERITAGE.

5. ARTICLE'S ANALYSIS OF ZIONIST INFLUENCE IS NOT, HOWEVER, CONFINED TO CRUDE ANTI-JEWISH INFERENCES. IT IS EQUALLY CRUDE IN DEALING WITH THE STRUCTURE OF ALLEGED RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN ZIONISM AND U.S. NATIONAL INTERESTS. "THERE IS AN IDEA WHICH SAYS THAT HOWEVER MUCH THE ARABS FRIENDLY TO THE U.S. MAY SERVE ITS INTERESTS, ISRAEL REMAINS THE BASIS FOR AMERICAN POLICY IN THE ARAB REGION. ISRAEL IS THE CLUB WITH WHICH THE U.S. IS ABLE TO STRIKE ANY ARAB ATTEMPT TO REBEL AGAINST IT. BRZEZINSKI, CARTER'S COUNSELOR FOR NATIONAL SECURITY, EXPRESSES THIS WHEN HE SAYS 'THE ARABS MUST UNDERSTAND THAT ISRAELI-AMERICAN RELATIONS CANNOT BE SIMILAR TO U.S. ARAB RELATIONS'."

6. COMMENT: THIS ARTICLE SHOULD'NT BE TAKEN AS AN OFFICIAL IRAQI VIEW OF THE U.S. POLITICAL PROCESS. IT DOES, HOEVER, REFLECT ONE ASPECT OF THE INTELLECTUAL ENVORONMENT WHICH NURTURES THE POLITICAL VIEWS OF RISING YOUNG BAATH PARTY MEMBERS. THE LOCAL MEDIA SYSTEMATICALLY ENGAGE IN DISTORTION OF NEWS ABOUT U.S. DOMESTIC LIFE AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY. MUCH OF WHAT WE READ IN THE LOCAL PRESS IS PROBABLY PLANTED BY SOVIET SOURCES THROUGH THE LEFTIST JOURNALISTS WHO DOMINATE THE PROFESSION IN IRAQ. WE ARE UNSURE HOW MUCH OF THIS MATERIAL IS SWALLOWED. IT IS PROBABLY READ WITH CONSIDERABLE SCEPTICISM BY THE BETTER EDUCATED IRAQI OFFICIALS WHO MAN WORKING LEVEL POSITIONS THROUGHOUT THE BUREAUCRACY AND HEAD SOME MINISTRIES. THEY ALMOST CERTAINLY PLACE MORE RELIANCE ON THE VOA AND OTHER FOREIGN BROADCASTS AS A SOURCE OF CONFIDENTIAL

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS. UNFORTUNATELY, THE BAATHI ELITE IS NOT GIVEN TRAINING IN CRITICAL THOUGHT AND IS VULNERABLE TO SLANTED REPORTING WHICH VIEWS THE WORLD AS PREY TO CONSPIRACIES BY ZIONISM AND U.S. IMPERIALISM. IT HELPS EXPLAIN, PERHAPS, WHY THE BAATHI LEADERSHIP HESITATES TO BRING IRAQ OUT OF ITS SELF IMPOSED POLITICAL ISOLATION. THE OUTSIDE WORLD MUST LOOK LIKE A DANGEROUS ENVIRONMENT TO MEN WHOSE INTELLECTUAL DIET COMES FROM THE PAGES OF AL-THAWRA.
WILEY

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